(d) whether Government have any proposal to increase the height of wall surrounding that Pocket so that nuisance could be avoided; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND PVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRIO. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that in this pocket water obtained from Delhi Jal Board is being supplied and there is no shortage.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The boundary wall has been constructed as per approved plan and the allottees have been charged accordingly.

Solid Waste Management in Metros

590. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing problems faced by Metros and big cities in management of solid waste, which has become hazardous;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for proper disposal and management of solid waste by cities;

(c) whether Technical Advisory Group on Solid Waste Management has submitted its final report to Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND PVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is the responsibility of the State Governments and concerned Urban Local Bodies to take necessary steps for proper disposal and management of solid waste by cities. However, Union Government has taken several steps, some of which are mentioned below:

(i) Letters to all Chief Ministers of States and Administrators of Union Territories were sent in November, 1997 alongwith necessary

guidelines to launch 'Clean City Campaign'.

(ii) Constitution of "a Committee in January, 1998 to look into all aspects of Solid Waste Management in Class-I cities as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Report of the Committee was finalized in March, 1999 after holding regional workshops with all State Governments and concerned Urban Local Bodies.The final Report was printed and circulated by this Ministry to all State Governments and Class I Cities for appropriate action as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(iii) Constitution of an Expert Committee in February, 1998 to prepare a comprehensive Manual on Municipal Solid Waste Management. The Manual was published by this Ministry in May, 2000 for guidance of State Governments and Urban Local Bodies.

(iv) The Ministry of Agriculture has been providing financial assistance through the State Governments/UTs for setting up of compost units/mechanized compost plants for processing of city bio-degradable waste under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers'. The Scheme has been subsumed *w.e.f.* 4.10.2000 in Macro-Management Scheme which envisages that States/UTs can continue to pursue this activity through their work plans.

(v) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing a National Programme for the recovery of energy from urban and industrial wastes for encouraging setting up of Waste to Energy Projects by providing some fiscal and financial incentives.

(vi) The Municipal Solid Wattes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 was notified by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 25th September, 2000.

(vii) Technology Advisory G roup (TAG) on Solid Waste Management was constituted by this Ministry in August, 1999 to provide technical guidance and other relevant information on proper solid waste management practices.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.